

Message Text

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SUBJECT: FAO COUNCIL, 66TH SESSION - SECOND DAY

/SUMMARY/ - DURING SECOND DAY, JUNE 10, COUNCIL DISPOSED OF ITEMS ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR (IWY) AND WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP) AND HEARD FIRST PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF PROGRAM AND FINANCE COMMITTEES ON SUMMARY PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET.

1. USDEL PRECEDED PLENARY DISCUSSION OF IWY WITH CONTACTS WITH VARIETY OF DELEGATIONS AND SECRETARIAT, AND DELEGATE (PAARLBERG) PRESENTED AMENDMENT OF DRAFT FAO RESOLUTION EARLY IN PLENARY. AMENDMENT WAS CO-SPONSORED BY DENMARK (WITH FURTHER AMENDMENT CONCERNING FAO INVOLVEMENT), PHILIPPINES AND EGYPT. CANADA AND NETHERLANDS AS WELL SUPPORTED THRUST OF AMENDMENT AND PROPOSED OTHER REFINEMENTS. TOTAL OF SOME 25 DELEGATIONS SPOKE AND SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY, INCLUDING MANY LDCS, FAVORED U.S. AND PARALLEL AMENDMENTS. TASK WAS LEFT TO DRAFTING COMMITTEE TO AMALGAMATE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

2. DISCUSSION OF ANNUAL REPORT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE (IGC) OF WFP AND RECONSTITUTION OF IGC AS COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMS WAS TAKEN UP TOGETHER. EXCEC. DIR. AQUINO ANNOUNCED CANADIAN AGREEMENT TO CONCEPT OF FORWARD UNCLASSIFIED

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PLANNING OF CONTRIBUTIONS, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN 1976

PLEDGE IN LINE WITH 1975, AND PROSPECTIVE SIMILAR CONTRIBUTION IN 1977. ACCORDING TO AQUINO, WITH INCREASED PLEDGES FROM CANADA, U.K. AND UAE PLEDGES THIS BIENNIUM TOTAL \$542 MILLION, ALMOST 20 0/0 OVER TARGET. HE PRESENTED DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON RECONSTITUTION OF IGC AND FRAMEWORK FOR PLEDGE TARGET FOR 1977-78 BIENNIUM, AND DRAFT AMENDMENT OF REGULATION ON EMERGENCY FOOD AID OF WFP. ENSUING DISCUSSION COVERED GAMUT OF WFP ISSUES BUT WAS MOSTLY CENTERED ON RECONSTITUTION, I.E., THE PROPOSAL OF SINGLE COMMITTEE OF THIRTY MEMBERS. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS REVIVED IDEA OF OPEN-ENDED COMMITTEE AND A COUPLE CONTINUED TO FAVOR TWO COMMITTEES. HOWEVER, SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY, INCLUDING SOME WHO HAD FAVORED GREATER ENLARGEMENT IN MARCH, SUPPORTED DRAFT AMENDMENT AS PRESENTED, ON GROUNDS THAT DIFFICULT COMPROMISE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY CITED 20 DELS FAVORING PRESENT DRAFT, WHICH CONSEQUENTLY WOULD BE FORWARDED TO ECOSOC FOR FURTHER ACTION.

3. REPORT OF PROGRAM AND BUDGET COMMITTEES WAS DISTRIBUTED AT NOON AND PRESENTATION BY CHAIRMAN PROGRAM COMMITTEE (PHILLIPS) MADE AT END OF DAY. TIMETABLE WAS MODIFIED TO ALLOW ALL WEDNESDAY MORNING FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION AND HOLD ALL OF NEXT TUESDAY FOR DETAILED DISCUSSION.VOLPE

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